

#2/A
11-101

PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of)
Walter Best, et al.) Art Unit: To be assigned
Serial No. To be assigned) Examiner: To be assigned
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
Title: FILTER DEVICE) Attorney Docket No. 16202.640

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. The filter device as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first filter element(s) (2, 12, 22, 23) is/are surrounded by the second filter elements (3 through 6; 13 through 20; 24, 25).

5. The filter device as defined in Claim 1, wherein the second filter elements (3 through 6; 13 through 20; 24, 25) are also made of electrically conductive ceramic material.

7. The filter device as defined in Claim 1, wherein the second filter elements (3, through 6; 13 through 20; 24, 25) are made of an electrically nonconductive ceramic material.